

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 070

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YE, KS

SUBJECT:ECONOMIC RESULTS OF HAMDI'S ASIAN TRAVELS

REF: (A) JIDDA 0030(NOTAL); (B) SANA 4523(1976) (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SEVERAL YARG OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT THECHINESE WELCOME KIT FOR PRESIDENT HAMDI AMOUNTED TO \$US 27MILLION. ALL OF THIS SUM IS NEW CREDIT FOR EXTENSION OR COMPLETION OF PRC PROJECTS, MOST OF WHICH LISTED REF B:

- A. SANA'SA'ADA HIGHWAY AND AMRAN-HAJJA ROAD;
- B. TEXTEILE FACTORY IN HODEIDAH;(
- .. VEGETABLE OIL PLANT IN HODEIDAH;
- D. MINERALS SURVEY TEAM;
- E. COMPLETION OF TAIZ HOSPITAL
- F. AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT WADI L'HA AND BATANA.

2. ONLY SPECIFIC PROMISES MADE BY NORTH KOREANS WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO BUILD NEW SPORTS STADIUM IN SANA AND BEGIN WATER CONSERVATION/SMALL DAMS PROJECT. WHEN ASKED HOW LARGE THE STADIUM WOULD, ONE OFFICIAL SAID YEMENIS FIRST ASKED FOR 50,000-SEAT CAPACITY, BUT NOW BELIEVE SEATING WILL BE CLOSER TO 10,000. THE NORTH KOREANS AGREED TO INVESTIGATE SETTING UP A SANIATRY WARES FACTORY AND PROVIDE OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

ON A REIMBURSABLE (BUT RIDICULOUSLY LOW) BASIS. EMBASSY
JIDDA MAY WISH TO PASS CONTENTS PARAS 1 AND 2 TO
SOUTH KOREANS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ADDRESSES MAY BE INTERESTED
IN UNOFFICIAL YARG IMPRESSIONS OF PRC AND NORTH KOREA.
FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ TOLD AMBASSADOR ON JANUARY 9,
THAT NORTH KOREANS GRACELESS
AND MECHANICAL AND SAID HE
BELIEVED THEY HAD THEIR IMPULSE FOR SPORTS STAIUM GIFT
"PASSED ON TO THEM BY THE CHINESE" WHO HAD INITIALLY
RECEIVED REQUEST FROM YAR. AL-ASNAJ CHARACTERIZED
THE NORTH KOREANNEGOTIATING TECHNIQUE AS COMBINATION
OF WORST FEATURES OF JAPANESE AND RUSSIANS WITH STUBBORN,
SEEMINGLY ENDLESS HAGGLING OVER INCONSEQUENTTIAL DETAILS.
FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTED KIM IL SUNG TO BE VIGOUROUS,
ROBUST, AND COMPLETELY DOMINANT OVER ALL OTHER KOREAN
INDIVIDUALS IN HIS PRESENCE AND APPARENTLY UNHAMPERED BY
THE "TENNIS-BALL SIZE " CYST ON HIS NECK. AL-ASNAJ
ALSO WAS CLEARLY AND UNFAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE EXTENT
OF THE DEIFICATION PROCESS WHICH KIM ENJOYS. (AS A
FORMER LEFTIST LABOR LEADER IN ADEN ENAMORED OF
GAMAL ABDUL NASSER, AL-ASNAJ IS A HIGHLY COMPETENT
COMMENTATOR ON THE SUBJECT OF DEIFICATION). PERHAPS
BEST CAPSULIZATION OF NORTH KOREAN VISIT MADE BY
CENTRAL PLANNING OFFICE DIRECTOR WHO SAID TRIP WAS MADE
FOR PURELY POLITICAL MOTIVES AND RESULTED IN MINOR
ECONOMIC WINDFALL.

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4. FOREIGN MINISTER FOUND CHINESE TO BE "CIVILIZED"
AND GENEROUS, DESPITE PREOCCUPATION WITH THE "SABOTAGE AND
TREASON" OF THE "FOUR CONSPIRATORS." AL-ASNAJ THOUGHT IT
AN INDICATION OF PRC CONFIDENCE IN ITS CONTROL OF SITUATION
THAT IT COULD ENGENDER SO MUCH PUBLIC DENUNCIATION. HE
CONCLUDED FROM CHINESE REMARKS AT FORMAL DINNER FOF
YEMENIS AND ELSEWHERE, THAT NO RECONCILIATION WITH
SOVIETS IS IN VIEW FOR SHORT OR MEDIUM TERM.
IN LATTER CONNECTION, DCM WAS TOLD SAME DAY BY RELIABLE
SOURCE WITH DIRECT ACCESS THAT HAMDI SAID THE T 1/2
HOURS OF CONVERSATION WITH HIGH RANKING PRC OFFICIALS WAS
TAKEN UP LARGELY (3 HOURS) BY ANTI-SOVIET DIATRIBES.
SCOTES

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